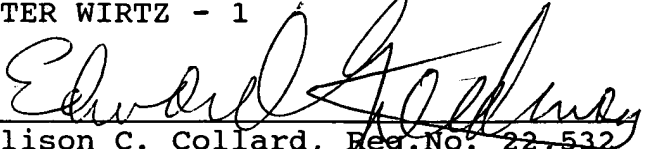


REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

By this Preliminary Amendment, claims 3-20, 22-24, 26 and 30-33 have been amended to delete the multiple dependencies. No new matter has been added. Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,  
PETER WIRTZ - 1

  
Allison C. Collard, Reg.No. 22,532  
Edward R. Freedman, Reg.No. 26,048  
Attorneys for Applicant

COLLARD & ROE, P.C.  
1077 Northern Boulevard  
Roslyn, New York 11576  
(516) 365-9802  
ERF:jc

EXPRESS MAIL NO. EL 975 567 046 US  
Date of Deposit: December 17, 2003

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10, on the date indicated above, and is addressed to Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Maria Guastella